

(b) whether it is fact that the funds allotted for powerlooms is much less than the handlooms, even though the productivity of powerlooms is much more than handlooms;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(d) whether there is any proposal to convert handlooms into powerlooms; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELAGOVAN): (a) The allocation of funds for the powerloom and the handloom sectors for the last three years is as under:

(Rs. in Crore)			
Sector	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
Powerlooms	10.96	17.64	31.87
Handlooms	220.52	241.47	261.27

(b) and (c) The fund allocated to both the sectors is need-based.

(d) and (e) No Sir. There is no proposal under consideration in the Ministry of Textiles for conversion of handlooms into powerlooms. However, there is no restriction to convert handlooms into powerlooms.

Employment Generation in textiles sector

861. SHRI JANARADHANA POOJARY : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have drawn up a scheme to generate a minimum of five lakh assured employment opportunities to BPL rural families in the textile sector; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELAGOVAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.